

Reconstruction.
We have, and shall continue to refrain from all political discussions, as not only useless, but probably hurtful. We fear the Southern people have already engaged too much in political affairs for their own good. We advised our people to send delegates to the Philadelphia Convention with many misgivings, which were made known through our columns, and only then, because we knew that it was the wish of the President and of the conservative people of the North that we should be represented in that assemblage. Our people really feel very little interest in politics, and we do not know that the press of the South, by constant discussions of the various questions which are dividing the present parties, although the Southern people are mostly concerned in their final issue, are conferring a benefit, but rather, by keeping up a useless excitement and distracting the attention of the people from more important matters, doing an actual injury. Our people know that whenever the North honestly desires reconstruction it will take place—whenever the Northern people are as well satisfied that it is to their political, as it is to their material advantage for the Southern States to be restored to their rights under the Constitution, a plan founded upon justice and law will be adopted. But to bring about this desirable state of affairs we are helpless, except by continuing to perform our duty as citizens. We therefore, for these reasons, shall continue to adhere to political matters only so far as is necessary to keep our readers informed of the news in political circles, and only enough for an epitome of the current history of the times.

It is known that previous to the adjournment of Congress for the holidays, Mr. Stevens, at the instance of several *opinion-holders* under the present State Government of the State, introduced a bill into that body for organizing a new government in "the district composing the former State of North Carolina." The bill was referred to the committee on Territories. We cannot tell why North Carolina was selected as the first target for Radical malice, unless it was because President Johnson began with this State in his policy of re-construction, and in destroying the progress made towards peace and reconciliation, it is desired to obliterate in succession and in regular order each step taken by the Executive.

Mr. Stevens, before the advent of these *patrician* citizens at Washington, had already introduced a bill for the demolition of the Southern States governments, and fearful, should he wait to reach the North Carolina "Enabling Act," that some other person might have the honor of "re-constructing the insurgent States," has engrained in his former bill the main features of the North Carolina bill, which stands first on the calendar, and comes up for consideration as soon as Congress re-assembles.

We publish this bill in full, as it seems to form the Radical plank upon the subject of re-construction. It will be seen that the oath which Holden, Pool & Co. incorporated into the original to permit them to hold office, is extended, in the amended bill, to voters. We suppose, under its provisions, if Gov. Holden is to be the chief legislator and interpreter for this State, all those who voted for Mr. Holden in 1864 for Governor, will be regarded as "unmistakably loyal," and entitled to all the privileges granted to the negroes. Of course, if the Southern States are re-admitted under such an act, it will be done by the power which the Government possesses, and the States will be united only in name. As we have before remarked, we do not believe that two-thirds of both Houses will give their support to such an outrage, which would be necessary to pass the bill over the veto of the President. Even in face of the late elections at the North, we do not think that the people of that section would sanction it. The bill is as follows:

A Bill to enable the States lately in rebellion to regain their privileges in the Union.
Whereas, The eleven States, which lately formed the Government called the "Confederate States of America," have forfeited all their rights under the Constitution, and can be reinstated in the same only through the action of Congress; therefore,
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the eleven States lately in rebellion, except Tennessee, may form valid State Governments in the following manner:

Sec. 1. And be it further enacted, That the States Governments now existing *de facto*, though illegally formed in the midst of martial law, and many instances the constitution was adopted under duress, and not submitted to the ratification of the people, and therefore are not to be treated as free republics, yet they are hereby acknowledged as valid governments for municipal purposes until the same shall be duly altered, and their legislative and executive officers shall be re-elected.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the States which were lately in rebellion, and have not yet been restored to representation in Congress, shall hold elections on the first Tuesday of May, 1867, to choose delegates to a convention to form a new State Constitution. Each of the States shall consist of the same number of members as the most numerous branch of the Legislature of said State at the time of the rebellion. Each of the members of said State on the first Monday of June of said year, at 12 o'clock noon, with the power to adjourn, from time to time, and shall proceed to form a State Constitution, which shall be submitted to the people at such time as the Convention shall direct, and if ratified by a majority of legal votes shall be declared the Constitution of the State. Congress shall elect a Commission for each of said States, to consist of three persons, who shall select or direct the mode of selecting the election of officers for the several election districts, which districts shall be the same as before the Rebellion, unless altered by said Commission. The officers shall consist of one judge and two electors of elections and two clerks. The said officers, together with the expenses of the election, shall be paid by the United States. Each of the members of said Commission shall receive \$5,000 per annum, and their clerks \$2,000. The Commission shall procure all the necessary books, stationery and boxes, and to make all regulations to effect the objects of this act. The President of the United States and the military commander of the district shall furnish so much military aid as the said Commissioners shall deem necessary to protect the polls and keep the peace at each of the election districts. If, by any means, no elections should be held in any of said States on the day herein fixed, then said election shall be held on the 3rd Monday of May, 1867, in the manner herein prescribed. Returns of all elections shall be made to the said Commissioners, whose certificates of election shall be *prima facie* evidence of the fact.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That persons who shall be entitled to vote at both of said elections, as used in this act, shall be considered as all persons (except Indians not taxed) born in the United States, or duly naturalized. Any

"Our endless muster-rolls, our colossal 'debt,' our summoning the negroes to our aid, are a satire upon our manhood unless the enemy who so long withstood us—'an enemy so inferior in numbers and every military resource—was endowed with great qualities.' That such a people are pronounced willing to submit to any and every indignity that party violence and passion are ready to impose, is not more indicative of their helplessness than of the subversion of the principles of a free government."

Relief of the People.
The Virginia papers are urging upon the attention of the Legislature of that State, which re-assembled this week, after enjoying the Christmas holidays and attending to the business necessary upon the advent of the New Year, various subjects for the relief of the people of the Old Dominion. In some of the means proposed, the Legislature of North Carolina has anticipated, in part, at least, their neighbors of Virginia; in others, the questions exciting interest there and occupying the attention of their General Assembly, are also subjects of earnest legislation here, and will be the engrossing questions for the consideration of the General Assembly at its adjourned session.

It is urged, in Virginia, that the usury laws be repealed, not modified, as was done in this State, by the Legislature of 1865-66. The very great scarcity of money in that State is explained on account of the usury laws of the State and the heavy penalty for infringing them. Every business interest is languishing on account of the want of capital, and especially is this true of the agricultural interest. Certainly, if any property could command money, the security which farmers can give ought to do so. In North Carolina, the rate of interest has been changed from six to eight per cent, by agreement between the parties, with forfeiture only of the excess above six per cent, when larger interest is taken. In South Carolina, by a recent act of their Legislature, the usury laws have been repealed and interest left to be regulated by the contract of parties, its price to be determined by the equitable laws of trade. This, it is expected, will bring money into the State, and consequently stimulate every branch of industry. So far, the usury law has formed no part of the legislation of the present General Assembly, and so far as we know there has been no bill offered intending any modification or repeal of the law as it now stands.

A Homestead law is urged upon the consideration of the Legislature of Virginia as necessary for the relief of the people. All the new and many of the old States have reaped great advantages from a homestead exemption law, and if people ever required this protection in order to encourage them in building and improving homes, most certainly do the people of the Southern States need them. In the Legislature of North Carolina various bills have been proposed and some acted on adversely. Mr. Richardson, of Bladen, introduced a bill in the House of Commons exempting certain personal property, named therein, from execution and providing a homestead, which passed that body after much able discussion, and is at present before the Senate Judiciary committee. This bill we have given in full. Mr. Berry, the Senator from Orange county, has a homestead bill before the Senate, having passed through two readings, and received a consideration of several days' session on its third reading, and comes up first on the re-assembling of the Legislature, being the special order for the 22d of January, the day of meeting. We shall in a day or two give the leading features of this bill, in connection with that of Mr. Richardson's.

The "Stay Law" is also a matter of interest to be considered, in connection with the subject of the relief of the people, and we propose to give our readers, in a future number, a concise statement of the status of this question before the Legislature, as a bill has passed the House of Commons changing somewhat the ordinance of the Convention, and is now in the hands of the Judiciary committee of the Senate.

These subjects, with that of establishing schools for the benefit of poor children, embrace the great questions of legislation which will occupy the time of our General Assembly when it re-assembles, relating directly to the relief of the people, and with a desire to acquaint our readers with various propositions, and in order that the positions taken by their immediate representatives upon their return to Raleigh may be understood, we shall, before that time, refer to all these matters in detail.

Attempt to Assassinate a Brigadier of the Freedmen's Bureau.

Baltimore, Jan. 1.
A private letter from Raleigh, N. C., gives the particulars of an attempt there on the 15th inst. to assassinate Brigadier General Brady, of the Freedmen's Bureau, by a man who professed his intention in the different drinking saloons of the town, saying he had come to have his revenge for the treatment he received during his imprisonment on charges of being a spy, alleging that the parties to whom he alluded had treated him badly while a provost marshal.

The man called at the private residence of Gen. Brady, and as he entered his room turned the key and seized Brady by the throat, drew a pistol, and avowed his purpose to murder him. A fearful struggle then ensued. Brady called for help, but his cries were unheard. Finally, the assassin said he perceived Brady was a Mason, and promised his intended victim if he released his hand, in which he held the pistol, he would make no further attempt on his life. At this moment the pistol dropped on the floor, and the man availing himself of the exhaustion of Brady, unlocked the door and escaped. The civil authorities of Raleigh, it is said, refused to take action in the matter, and the desperado is still at large.

Important Decision of the Supreme Court.
We publish to-day a lengthy extract from the opinion of the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of Milligan vs. The Military Commission. A dissenting opinion was filed by Chief Justice Chase, with whom were three Justices, but upon the material point involved in the case, the Court was unanimous. The dissenting opinion was filed upon the power of Congress (which it never exercised, however, even in their opinion) to authorize the trial of civilians by Military Commissions. The opinion will only conform with what is known to every lawyer in this State, to be sound constitutional law, and is only important as the grounds and the conclusion of the highest legal tribunal in the country. The military commission, whose trials and executions of civilians, which has now been pronounced illegal and was a disgrace to the government, would, under ordinary circumstances, never have been submitted to by the people of the United States, and which, had they not been checked by the wise and timely interference of the President and now entirely destroyed by the decision of the Supreme Court, might and probably would have progressed to an alarming degree. Every day, after the promulgation of this decision, that the confinement at the Forts of the prisoners sentenced by the military commission continues, is a sad evidence of the decadence of the powers of the judicial department of government and an alarming proof of the subservience of law to the unbridled will of the populace.

The Yacht Race.
The base-laid sensation, the amusements of the holidays, and the re-assembling of Congress, all pale before the new cause of excitement at the North. Mr. Bennett, jr., a son of the proprietor of the New York Herald, has just defeated, with his yacht, *Henrietta*, two others, the *Fleeting* and *Vesta*, in a race across the ocean, from New York harbor to Cowles. Young Bennett is consequently famous—has been admitted into the Royal presence and been snail upon by the Queen, and *feared* by the nobility. Under the strong influence of his success and the champagne of "my lords," he has challenged the English and the rest of mankind for a race. At a dinner given by Lord Lennox, His Royal Highness, Prince Alfred, the Duke of Edinburgh, at the request of his mother, accepted the challenge of Bennett, and in August next they sail around the Isle of Wight, for a prize of one hundred pounds. The Duke will sail his own yacht, the *Viking*. We wish luck to the Yankee yacht.

It is sagely hinted that if Commodore McVicker, of the New York Yacht Club, will resign or die, no preference seems to be expressed, that it will not be hard to name his successor.

The Snow Storm.
We are beginning to receive accounts of the terrific snow storm which raged over most of the States North of us and extending as far South as Georgia, on the 27th and 28th ult. The gale was of great fury, and was attended in some places with fatal results to life and property. The snow in some portions of the Northern States was of great depth, and the fury of the winds drifted it about fearfully. In the upper part of the State of New York, and as far South as Albany and Troy, the storm was the severest experienced for twenty years; the drifts on the railroads being higher than the locomotives. From New York City along the Hudson and up into Canada the fall of snow was the greatest, but the fury of the hurricane extended through the entire Northern States and as far West as St. Louis. The snow was only one inch deep at Boston—very little in Philadelphia and none in Washington, Louisville and St. Louis and westwardly. The mails have been greatly delayed by the storm.

The Bingham School.
We are under obligations to Col. Wm. Bingham, for a catalogue of the Bingham School from 1861 to 1866, inclusive. During the past year the number of students at this fine institution was 76, an evidence of merited popularity. We suppose that the number this year will be much increased, as the people are recovering more and more from the effects of the war. Our people are fully impressed with the importance of educating their children, and the meritorious Schools and Colleges at the South will always be well sustained.

We refer our readers to the advertisement in another column, as to the time for the opening of the Spring term of the Bingham School.

Labor in Edgecombe.
We learn from a private letter from a friend, that negroes in Edgecombe county refuse, in many instances, to work for \$15 per month and rations, under a manager, being desirous of farming on shares, where they can do so without a manager over them. And on the other hand they prefer to work for wages without a manager than upon shares under one. The Nash farmers are offering \$12 per month, without success, and it is thought many of these laborers will drift into Edgecombe.

Savings Bank.—Mr. P. W. FARRING, Cashier of the Savings Bank of this city, advises that a meeting of the Stockholders of that institution will be held at the office of Alfred Martin, Esq., on the 15th inst. The Stockholders when they assemble will take into consideration the propriety of re-insuring depositors who placed money in the office of the Bank, and that such measures will be adopted as will lead to this result. Not a few deposits formerly placed in the bank, were made in gold, for which the depositors have not been enabled to receive any benefit whatsoever. There are others who are actually in want, and to whom the returning of their money would prove the means of secure from distress.

Destitute Travelers.
So many destitute travelers pass through Chattanooga, who spend the night huddled together promiscuously, without either bedding, fire or food, at the Union passenger depot, that the Nashville and Chattanooga railroad company proposes in conjunction with other roads, centering at that point to erect buildings, fit them up with all needful appendages, purchase food and have cooks to prepare meals and watchmen to keep up fires throughout the night, extending this way relief to a considerable extent the suffering experienced by traveling destitutes.

From the Richmond Examiner, Jan. 3.
Relief for Jefferson Davis and Family.
The annexed correspondence, published in the Norfolk Virginian, we cheerfully copy, to the end that the sentiments there expressed may set on foot an movement among our citizens which will result in the full attainment of the object sought:

"NATIONAL HOTEL,
"NORFOLK, December 20th, 1866."
"Mrs. A. F. Leonard:
"Respected Madam:—By the enclosed printed letter, taken from the Richmond Examiner of the 22d instant, you will perceive that, some weeks ago, members of the Legislature of Texas, to raise, by general subscription, pecuniary aid for the family of that pure and noble man who now languishes in an American bastille, the 'vicious sufferer for the South.'"

"The letter referred to and the proceedings inaugurated under it in Texas, will, I trust, be regarded as constituting sufficient apology (if apology be needed) for my asking the privilege of being permitted to co-operate with the Texans to the extent of the enclosed sum of money now presented as my contribution (for ten months in advance) on the basis proposed in the Texas letter. I have no objection to my name being placed on this object, and contributing as a Virginian, I think it would be more appropriate (regarding Texas) for me to place my name on the list in your hands, than to send it all the way to Texas; and I beg, therefore, that you will do me the honor to take charge of it. I am, I doubt not, that the situation of Mr. Davis' family called so impetuously for aid from the Southern people."

"I have the honor to remain, madam,
"With much respect,
"Your obedient servant,
"CHARLES HARRIS."
[ANSWER.]
"NORFOLK, VIRGINIA, 24th Dec., 1866."
"CHARLES HARRIS, Esq.:
"Esteemed Sir:—I have the pleasure of acknowledging the receipt of your pleasing letter of this morning, enclosing ten months' subscription on my very proper plan for the relief of Mr. Davis, now incarcerated in a military prison. It will gratify me to hand the amount of your subscription (\$100) to Mr. B. B. Bennett, pastor of Christ Church, Norfolk, who will, I doubt not, have an opportunity of applying it toward the hands of the needy and suffering. I am, Sir,
"Respectfully and truly yours,
"C. LEONARD."

Important (if true) from Washington.
Correspondence of the Baltimore Gazette.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—I have it upon undoubted authority that Senator Fessenden has, within a day or two, emphatically declared his opposition to all schemes having in view an attempted forcible disorganization of the present State Governments in the unrepentant States. The utmost extent to which he will go, when the adoption of the constitutional amendment shall have been shown to be impossible, will be to give his assent to an act of Congress proposing a plan to those States, by which, if adopted by them, their interrupted relations to the Federal Government may be fully re-established. It is understood that these views, which utterly discard the idea of territorializing those States, are concurred in by Senators Foster, Sherman, Cragin, Fogg, and perhaps others.

In harmony with the above distinct fact, I may mention the report that even the committee on Territories in the House will report a bill recognizing the validity of the Southern State Governments, but proposing that the rebellious and non-southern States, by which they may be restored to representation. The truth is that the whole present policy of the Radicals, as I have had occasion before to remark, can be summed up in a single word—JELLY. They have not put any of their threats of impeachment, against the State governments, and the like, into practice.

It is among the wonders of this "enlightened age," that the philosophers, who rule the roost in the halls of legislation at this capital have so little foresight as not to have anticipated the obstructions their enemies are encountering at every turn. The utmost surprise is constantly expressed in Radical political circles that they are hemmed in by the guards which the framers of the Constitution provided expressly to prevent the very things they meditate. They desire to concentrate in Congress the whole power of the Government. The first obstacle met by them is the non-cooperation. They were astounded, their utmost ingenuity was vainly taxed to overcome the impediment, and they finally fell back upon mere abuse and threats of impeachment. Before finally resolving, however, upon the course to pursue, they consulted the members of the Executive office by this summary process, they encountered another barrier of the Government—the Judiciary—and are again surprised and appalled at the obstacle and straightway puzzle their poor wits to "invent" some ingenious contrivance by which the formidable "don in the petticoat" may be either "got around" or "scared off." At this very moment, while I am penning these lines, numberless coteries of Radical politicians throughout this metropolis are busily engaged in discussing a thousand means of abolishing the Supreme Court by Congress. One course, which is listening to these viscerales, that the great body of the present "governing class" never knew or had utterly forgotten so plain a truth as that the Executive and Judiciary are co-ordinate and independent departments of this Government, and that the President or the Judges of the Supreme Court have precisely as much authority to abolish Congress as Congress has to abolish either of them.

Pardoned Confederates.
WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—The list of the pardoned Confederates is completed and will be sent to the States Monday. It contains 295 names from the following States: Alabama, 33; Arkansas, 29; District of Columbia, 25; Florida, 8; Georgia, 18; Kentucky, 12; Louisiana, 21; Maryland, 3; Mississippi, 15; Missouri, 9; North Carolina, 17; South Carolina, 21; Tennessee, 15; Texas, 13; Virginia, 48; West Virginia, 9. This does not include the \$25,000 pardons.

Ben. Wade and the Men in Gray.
We learn that it is not true that Ben. Wade refused to march behind the ex-rebel men in gray who composed the escort in New Orleans to the congressional railway excursion party, unless they would severally take and subscribe to the iron-clad oath. It is not true either that the "man in gray" who "attempted to assassinate" old Uncle Ben, in this city, was one of the committee of arrangements to receive the Senator and his radical friends.

Pedestrian Feat.
CHARLESTON, Dec. 31.—Sheppard has successfully accomplished the feat of walking 100 miles in succession, and has won the wager.

From the Salisbury old North State.
Col. Hall's Speech.
We are indebted to Col. E. D. Hall for a copy of the Wilmington Journal containing his speech in the Senate on the resolution, "declaring the loyalty of the people of North Carolina." We intended to publish a portion of this speech, but during our absence it has been mislaid so that we cannot find it.

Col. Hall frankly admits that he was an original secessionist, that he assumed his part of the responsibility for the war. We know that he was a gallant soldier in the Confederate army, and honestly and manfully stood by his principles to the last. When he surrendered and took the oath of amnesty he did so honestly and in good faith, and we doubt not he is as loyal to the government of the United States to-day as any man in the State. He is very severe upon that class of men who were at first loud in their protestations of zeal for the Confederate cause, but afterwards abandoned it in the hour of its peril and now claim to have been all the while loyal to the Union from the prescription of a large number of the people of the State because of their participation in the rebellion. This class of men he denounces as "traitors to their own treason."

But there was another class of Union men for whom he entertained very different feelings. For those Union men who stood firmly by their principles during the war—who had been consistent—he entertained the highest respect. He admitted that during the war when passion was at a white heat full justice had not been done, but since the war had closed, he said, the people of the State had extended to them their former accustomed confidence, and that all were now loyal to the national government. For proof of this he appealed to that class of Union men themselves. As he sent us a copy of his speech, we could not but regard as an appeal made to ourselves, one of that class, and we owe too much respect for Col. Hall not to respond.

We believe, with Col. Hall, that the great body of the people of North Carolina are loyal disposed to the Government of the United States. We believe that all idea of a separate government has been abandoned by them forever. We believe that they regard the question of secession as settled finally and forever by a mode of decision from which there is no appeal. We believe that they can now be trusted by the Federal Government, and that by the use of the strictest economy, we can save the money for the next year, and that all is dark. Having to maintain two households—my mother and children in Canada, my husband and younger children in New York, my friends in Virginia, and my own family in North Carolina—my expenses are necessarily and unavoidably great, in spite of the rigid economy which I have practiced. I have not one dollar save that contributed by my friends. I have been here, and also know that not one dish goes upon Mr. Davis' table beyond the strictest economy. That is not paid for out of my own purse. The papers assure the world that my husband is well taken care of; that they do not say so in his own people who keep him from want."

It is with much pleasure that we note the fact that almost every gallant soldier of the Confederate army, like Col. Hall, fully expresses that honesty of purpose and devotion to principle in consistent Union men which prompted the former to hazard their lives in defense of their own. It is mainly such war men as skulked the fight, or who resigned their commissions in the army under the influence of the "men in gray," who are unworthy of notice, but whose positions of the liberty of the press are falsely held up at the North as the reflex of public sentiment at the South. We allude to such editors as declared or allowed others to declare, through their columns, that any man who would take the test oath, or who would honestly and conscientiously might be able to do so, was an infamous scoundrel—such as have no respect for an inflexible adherence to principle in an opponent, and who called upon the government of the United States to send out armed federal soldiers here to fill the offices held by such. Such a course, however we believe, represent no body but themselves, and sooner or later will be held up to the merited scorn, contempt and indignation of an outraged people.

Methodist Episcopal Church, South.
We give below, as a matter of public interest, the state of the vote upon the constitutional changes proposed for adoption at the last General Conference, viz: the change of name to the "Episcopal Methodist Church," and the introduction of lay delegates into the legislative assembly of the Church. It will be seen that the sentiment in favor of these changes is immensely preponderant, but as the General Conference required a majority vote of three-fourths, it may yet be lost:

Change of Name.		Lay Representation.
Ages.	Noes.	Noes.
Kentucky	45	7 47
Louisville	35	31 67
Westport	28	30 58
St. Louis	24	12 19
Arkansas	25	8 28
Little Rock	24	19 16
Indian Mission	7	00 7
Texas	27	00 26
Fort Worth	23	00 23
East Texas	36	6 39
Northwest Texas	28	00 26
Waco	27	8 40
Virginia	54	65 76
Western Virginia	15	7 21
Nonpareil	27	3 38
Holston	51	2 47
Tennessee	52	48 58
Memphis	7	43 65
Mississippi	36	52 65
Mobile	21	46 38
Florida	109	3 117
Montgomery	54	12 64
Georgia	41	2 40
South Carolina	104	5 102
1037		290 1068
390		846
41427		41414

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From the New York Times, Dec. 30.
A Conquered People.
An officer of high rank and eminent distinction, who has recently returned from a leisurely tour which he had occasion to undertake through the Southern States, as far as Mississippi has described to us the profound political indifference and the apathy of spirit and stupor of feeling that he found to exist among the people of the South.

The Southern politicians may be as a whole placid enough in their temper and tone. The Southern newspapers as a general thing may be temperate enough in their utterance. The Southern Legislatures may have expressed a deep desire for peace, quiet and conciliation; but neither the politician, the journalist, nor the legislative bodies give a representation of the all-controlling and inexpressible desire that exists among the great body of the Southern people—the planter, the tradesman, the farmer—for relief from political turmoil and economic depression. The Southern people are in a state of reconstruction that may be affected them in the political forms that their Northern conquerors may impose upon them. If they have a desire at all that the old order of things may be renewed, as far as it is now possible, it is mainly because the pre-revolutionary or pre-Confederate customs and traditions have still a hold upon them. But if the determination of the North to reduce the once proud and powerful States of the South to a territorial condition, or to govern them by military power exclusively, the bulk of the conquered people will receive the knowledge of the fact with something very like entire unconcern, and with only the feeblest of protests. Nay, if the Congress at Washington were to decree an entire change of government, and to proclaim a royal or imperial order of things for the South, the dispirited people would possibly at least recognize the Emperor, and would make no great show of opposition. But if they have already acknowledged to be supreme over them. The fact is, in brief, that they are thoroughly disgusted with politics, politicians, and all the political pretensions and pretenses which have wrought them out of their graves, and as they look around them at the desolated country, and their blasted prospects—as they step the weeds growing over the graves where the flower of Southern youth and chivalry lies sleeping—as they feel the deep oppression of ruined hopes and broken hearts, they cry in weariness and despair of soul, as formerly they cried angrily and defiantly, "let us alone."

The results of the extensive observation of the officer in question differ entirely from the numerous representations we have heard in the North, that the Southern people are still defiant, and combinations, still pregnant with the spirit of rebellion, and that they are determined to overthrow in war, and still determined to thwart the Northern purpose, and give the Government as much trouble as possible. We are certain that if any one takes the trouble to investigate the grounds on which assertions of this kind are based, he will generally find them extremely ridiculous. If it is reported, for example, that a black man gets killed in a melee somewhere in Georgia, we at once see elaborate arguments that the rebel spirit is still rampant in that State. If it is published that some white or black man gets whipped in some Southern State, we speak of the Yankees as "clock-makers" or as "slab-sided" negro-lovers, we at once see it demonstrated that the Mississippians are unfit to be represented in Congress, and that a people so lost to all sense of decency are fit only to be ruled by the iron rod of Canadian bayonets. We appeal to the records of the entire South, and to the monuments such as these have not been used daily, and if much of the "statesmanship" of our so-called "statesmen" has not been of the style we illustrated and based on such data as we have given. We confess we should desire to see the order of statesmanship brought to its true treatment of such great questions as now demand settlement in this country.

Neither can it be said the refusal of the South to ratify the Constitutional Amendment contravenes in any way these representations of the broken spirit and political apathy of the South. For it but shows that we should give consideration to the reasons which they themselves allege for this rejection and though we may not regard them as conclusive either in a moral or political aspect, yet we must have respect for the fact of their weight in the minds of the population of a vast and populous section of the country. There appear to be at least a withered remnant of a once full blown pride in their refusal to ratify a measure to which we know they will submit if the North imposes it, we must remember how often a little pride will linger amid ruin, and where all else is gone. It seems foolish in them to refer to it as a part in disabling those whom we have designated as leaders in rebellion, we must remember that they do not regard them in the same light as we do, and, moreover, that if they will not put their own hand to the deed of disablement they will put no hand to their own destruction. We believe as by our legislation, they have neither the power nor the disposition to resist them.

We believe it will be years before the Southern people rise out of this apathetic and enervated condition. We believe it is the power of Congress to fix them in that condition, and to sow at the same time the seeds of acrimonious feeling for the future. And we believe that only generosity and magnanimity of treatment will save them from a misfortune which would not only be damaging to themselves, but exceedingly damaging to the entire country and all its interests.

Important to Tobacco Chewers and Smokers.
If what is said by the Philadelphia Press be true, and we have no reason to doubt it, we imagine that Philadelphia is the only city in the Union where such a scandalous trade would be tolerated. The Press says:

"Everybody who is in the streets at a late hour of the night or early in the morning may notice individuals about the fronts of restaurants, hotels and bar-rooms, gathering from the streets and gutters the stumps and ends of cigars, and then, when emptied from spittoons, will wonder what possible use can be made of them. For the benefit of pipe-smokers and tobacco chewers we can give some information on that subject. There are a number of establishments in this city to which this filthy refuse is taken, and where it is washed, dried in the sun or over a fire, placed in a small mill and ground, and then neatly put up in small packages and sold as a superior quality of fine-cut chewing and smoking tobacco of various fancy brands. The quantities of old soldiers, as the boys call them, thus gathered, re-modeled and sold every day, is almost incredible. The general quality of the tobacco which goes through this process is said to be excellent."

Thad Stevens proposes to destroy the State of Maryland, which never did secede. Stephens failed to offer the city of Dublin as a "Christmas gift" to the Irish Republic. It was a Scotch woman who said that the butcher of her town only killed half a beast at a time.